

Indicator <i>Recommended with Reservations</i>	Violent Crime Rate
Justification	Violence is associated with alcohol, though the causal pathway is not completely understood. Drinking on the part of the victim or a perpetrator can increase the risk of assaults and assault-related injuries. Approximately 23% of sexual assaults, 30% of physical assaults, and 3% of robberies are attributable to alcohol.
Definition	Number of simple and aggravated assaults, sexual assaults, and robberies reported to the police per 1,000 population
Numerator	Annual number of simple and aggravated assaults, sexual assaults, and robberies reported to the police per 1,000 population
Denominator	Total resident population for same calendar year
Data Sources	Crimes reported to police from the Uniform Crime Reports (numerator) and population estimates from the U.S. Bureau of the Census (denominator)
Frequency	Annual
Geographic Levels	National, State, and County
Demographic Categories	NA
Strengths	Violent crimes reported to the police are available annually and can be disaggregated to the county and community levels.
Limitations	Reported violent crimes are an under report of the total number of actual violent crimes. No information on the perpetrator is available to determine if they have been drinking or to disaggregate these data by demographic subgroups. Estimates of the percentage of crimes attributable to alcohol are derived primarily from self-reports of incarcerated perpetrators of the crimes. The percentage actually attributable to alcohol may vary across geographic units. Although most police departments do report UCR data, there are a few jurisdictions each year for which data are not provided.